[Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar.]

are not necessary and give the movement a non-credit turn with a view to intensify production, distribution and marketing. Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai was perfectly right when he said that the pre-requisite of agriculture was cheap credit. It is not in the province of Joint Stock Companies to give credit to agriculture which is a biological industry in the sense that the harvest is done quickly and the people have to get money quickly. All this will be considered when the scheme submitted by the committee is given effect to. I have nothing more to say Sir except to thank the honourable members for the valuable suggestions given by them.

Mr. M K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: May I know how many fruit plants have been sold?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: About 1,500.

The question that a sum of Rs. 1,57,741 and a sum of Rs. 92,093 be granted under Demand XX—Agriculture and Demand XXII—Co-operative Department respectively was put and carried. The grants were made.

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

Mr. C. Kumara Das (*Director of Industries*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 89,132 under Demand XXI—Industries including Rubber Factory.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: Sir, I oppose the Demand. I find from the Budget that the activities of the Industries Department are confined to certain educational institutions, the Sri Mulam Technical School, the S. M. R. V. Institute and the Government School of Commerce. So far as the Technical School and the Institute are concerned I am of the view that since we have a University which is dealing with such educational institutions it will be better that such institutions are guided by that University. Similarly, the Government School of Commerce. What remains is simply the subject of giving grants to certain weaving schools. I do not approve of the idea of giving any grant to these weaving schools. There are ever so many weaving institutes and weaving looms working in Travancore. As such there is no necessity to give any more grants for weaving institutes hereafter. Further, there is a textile institute under the Travancore University where any-body who wants to study the technique of weaving can learn it. I do not understand the necessity of grants being given for this purpose by the department. What remain are the Geological Section and the working of the Labour Acts. The Geological Section can very well be brought under the Archaeological Department. They also excavate something (*Laughter*), dig in various

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places and find out something. In that sense perhaps this Geological Section may very well be brought under the Archaeological Department.

In regard to the Labour Acts, it is better that Labour Laws are worked by people who are skilled in law. It is better that these laws are administered by the District Judges or District Magistrates. In conclusion, I say there is absolutely nothing for that department to be continued. Has the department justified its existence in Travancore? What is the industry which it has introduced into Travancore? Absolutely nothing. I do not think the present Director will be able to guide the destinies of such industries as the Ceramic Factory or the Rubber Factory. The Ceramic Factory is controlled by a Technical Expert. If the Director of Industries can introduce some new industry into Travancore there is justification for continuing the Industries Department. If not, I would say that the department be stopped.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: What are the activities of the department in British India?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: I am only a lay-man who does not pretend to know the details of the working of departments in British India. I find that the department has done nothing here. There was the skin or hide industry section. But the hide specialist or tanning expert had no work, so much so he has been drafted to the Registration Department. There was another officer for the textile industry and he was transferred to the University.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir I quite agree with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar. It will be seen that the post of the Director of Industries is something of a philosophical abstraction now. Really speaking, many of the activities which were once attended to by the Industries Department have fallen off from the Director. They have been absorbed mostly by the University. There is the Rubber Factory and the Ceramic Factory. The Director of Industries is too small a voice to have anything to do with these factories. For my own part I do not think there is anything that justifies the existence or the continuance of this officer as Director of Industries. There may be the necessity of a labour officer in view of the growing importance of labour, the growth of labour disputes and labour legislation. But the Director of Industries is hardly the officer for it. He has been, I believe, trained by Government as an expert in some work. I think that expert ought to be in the University because the money that was spent by Government for giving him the special training must be utilised. Normally, I am against any of these experts being saddled with work for which they are not fitted. The management

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[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai].

of the Department of Industries can very well done by any Secretariat officer. They will do it much better than these experts. The money spent in training these experts should not be wasted by asking them to do routine work firstly, because there is not sufficient work, secondly, because this officer is not trained for the administration of labour laws and thirdly because he has been trained for some expert work at the cost of Government. Although the grant may be voted, I think the department may be safely abolished.

Mr. M. Govindan : What is the special training of the officer ?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : I think he was trained as an Industrial Chemist at the cost of Government.

Mr. James Fletcher : Sir, one of the important industries in Travancore is the weaving industry. Of course, it is a thriving industry and the weavers are able to earn their living. Even for doing that work they have to study the art of weaving. For that purpose a large number of schools has been established. These schools not only carry on teaching the technique of weaving but they also carry on weaving. Since the schools are teaching a number of boys these schools have to be helped. For that purpose grants are given. My friend Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar asks, why should you pay grant to these schools ? The same question may be asked in respect of primary schools. Why should grants be given to primary schools ? A large number of boys are being taught in those institutions which are helping the people to earn a living. Such institutions must be helped. Secondly Government are thinking of introducing the cement industry in Travancore. Before money is invested on that industry a large amount of pioneering work has to be done. A specialist like the Director of Industries alone can do such work.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar : May I know whether the present Director of Industries has got any special knowledge of the cement industry ?

Mr. James Fletcher : Though he has not got special training, he can know where raw materials such as lime-stone and shells are available and he can know in which part of the country these are available in large quantities. Having been trained in that line I am sure he will have the necessary data before starting an industry like that. Then again I may say that various factory industries are now going to be started in Travancore. There must be some officer to supervise and give advice to those industries in the administrative side though not in the technical side. For that

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purpose we want an officer like the Director of Industries.

If it is the idea that the industries Director should be proficient in all kinds of industries and that such a man alone should be permitted to preside over the destinies of the Department, that is not at all a practicable proposition. In that case he must be a rubber expert, then a sugar expert and an expert in all kinds of industries that may be started in the country in future. The other alternative would be to appoint a number of Directors for each of the industries that is to be carried on in the country. One individual alone cannot be an expert in all kinds of industries. The present head of the Industries Department has acquired technical knowledge in all the industries that are being pursued in this country and he is therefore the proper person to supervise them.

Mr. C. Kumara Das: Sir, such a terrific onslaught has been made during the debate on the head of the department that I do not know whether I should defend myself or the department.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: That is directed against the office, Sir.

Mr. C. Kumara Das: The speeches that have been delivered here would convince anybody that the speakers know nothing about any industry here. But luckily they number only three. Their observations show that they have not bestowed any thought upon any industry that is being carried on in this State. My friend Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar was talking about archaeology and geology, about weaving and a host of other things. I do not know whether anybody in his position would give expression to such views which show that he has bestowed no thought on the various industries.

Take for instance, the weaving industry, which, he said, needed no encouragement, inasmuch as the Textile Institute attached to the University imparted training in weaving. There is a lot of difference in the kind of instruction that is given in the University and the training that is given in an ordinary weaving school. Boys who have studied up to the 3rd class in a Malayalam or Tamil school are taken up for training. That is the qualification required for admission in a weaving school. They are not in a position to undergo the same kind of training that is being given to the University students. The University trains people to become teachers in weaving institutions. But the prime need of the State is to train more artisans. Such men alone become actual weavers. Hundreds and thousands of people have been trained as artisans in the schools conducted by the department and they earn a living as a result of the training imparted to them. There is practically no comparison between the kind of training that is given to a University than that given in our weaving schools. The University Textile Institute and the weaving schools under my department

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[Mr. C. Kumara Das].

perform two essential, albeit different, functions. Neither can be dispensed with, nor can there be the question of substituting one for the other. It is really a sorry state of affairs, that criticisms have been directed on weaving without a knowledge of the industry as it is and without even making an attempt to learn what it is like

Now the question of controlling industries about which mention was made,—about rubber, cement, and ceramics, I may inform the honourable members that all these Industries are chemical industries and the present Director of industries can boldly assert before this House that he is quite competent to understand all the processes connected with them and that he knows them too. Whether he will be able to conduct a factory of that type by himself that is quite a different matter. Each industry must have its expert. The Director cannot be expected to be an expert in every kind of industry that is being pursued in the State. But he must have sufficient knowledge of the varied processes connected with, at any rate, most of the industries he has to control and direct and the Director of Industries can declare without any fear of contradiction that both by training as well as qualifications he possesses that knowledge in abundance

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: Then, may I know, why was the rubber industry a failure and given over to a private company for working ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: Sir, it is due to misinformation or misapprehension that some people think that the rubber factory was a failure, when it was conducted by the Government. The factory was first initiated and run by Government. It was never stopped. It is the policy of Government to initiate industrial schemes and when enthusiasts are ready to undertake the working, to hand it over to that agency. There was also clamour from the representatives of the people that Government should not run the industries. At that juncture certain private people approached Government with a proposal to run that factory. That was the circumstance which led to the handing over of the rubber industry. It was not because that it was a failure that was done.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai; Then may I know, could not the ceramic industry be entrusted to private enterprise ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: It is not necessary that every concern that is started by Government should be handed over to private enterprise.

I may now indicate what the department has been doing towards the development of one or two industries. So much has been talked about weaving. It was stated that is an art which

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everybody knows and that there is no necessity of institutions for training weavers. If one visits a place where hand looms are operating, he will find there are some kinds of equipment by plying which cloth is being made. The same visitor, if he does not possess some knowledge of the mechanisms used may not detect any difference with equipments in another place where improved methods may be in vogue. Unless one takes the trouble to understand the processes and carefully scrutinises what is actually being done, he will be no wiser. The handloom industry has been revolutionised by the use of the fly-shuttle in place of the throw-shuttle. There are over 20,000 looms using this device and it was the department that was instrumental in introducing it and training weavers in its use. This in itself is an advance of enormous significance. But the plying with the fly-shuttle necessitates the use of what is called a frame-loom (European loom). The cost of that mechanism is about Rs. 30 to 35. This is a considerable sum for the weaver who is deplorably poor. So far as the poor ordinary worker is concerned it is not possible for him to invest this amount to secure a loom of this type. The department took up the question of finding out if some economy could not be effected in the initial capital by constructing a loom which would produce the same quantity of material at the same speed. The pit-loom is cheap, but it is ordinarily worked only with the throw-shuttle, which is a slow process. As a result of the labours of the department, the pit-loom has now been adapted to use the fly-shuttle, which is the most outstanding advantage which the frame-loom possesses over the pit-loom. The speed of production is the same as that in the frame loom, and the output also the same.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon : May I know whether any new kind of invention has been found out (just like the sewing machine) by which it is possible to get yarn direct at one stroke by inserting cotton at the top end of the machine? I read something like that in the papers.

Mr. C. Kumara Das : That is the principle of spinning of mills. The raw material, cotton, is fed at one end and the prepared yarn emerges at the other.

Many people have now taken to this pit-loom with the fly-shuttle, because of its low cost which comes to Rs. 10 to 12. That works out at about 1/3 of the cost of the original frame-loom. It has other advantages over the frame loom as well.

In our State there is only one cotton mill which weaves all the yarn it spins, leaving no balance for sale. All the yarn used by the thousands of weavers is imported from outside. For the purpose of transporting over long distance, the yarn which in the course of production is in bobbins has to be unwound and made

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[Mr. C. Kumara Das].

into hanks and bundles. On receipt by the weavers in the form of bundles they have to be rewound in pirns and bobbins. If however, arrangements can be made whereby the yarn can be obtained from the mills in the original bobbins, the costs of unwinding and making up into hanks and bundles and again rewinding in bobbins at the time of manufacture can be avoided. This will eventuate in a twofold advantage by reducing the cost of the yarn and the expenses of rewinding. When the yarn has to be got down from far-away, this cannot be done since the transport of bobbins with yarn is not an easy affair, but the savings can be netted if the local mill was prepared to supply the yarn. The A. D. Cotton Mills at Quilon was persuaded to let us have some yarn in bobbins direct from their works, in order that the department may have the scheme experimentally tried by supplying bobbin yarn to the weavers. The experiment has proved a success. The yarn in this shape costs from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to $\frac{3}{4}$ anna less per lb. and there is a gain of at least $\frac{1}{2}$ anna in the labour charges of rewinding, so that the weaver stands to gain not less than one anna for every pound he uses. Considering his economic condition and the practically negligible profit he makes, this is a substantial figure indeed.

Yet another line in which improvements have been made is the introduction of simple design. The installation of a dobby enables the weaving of patterns. One attraction of the imported mill cloth is in its possession of borders with designs for mundus, angavastrams etc. It has caught the fancy of the purchasers. In order to compete with these it is necessary that similar designs are woven in our handloom fabrics. The department has now, particularly within the last three years, familiarised the weavers with the use of the dobby and I have circularised all weaving schools that there should be at least one dobby and that they should instruct the pupils in its manipulation and working. Thus we have trained a very large number of people who are able to use the dobby and the number of looms to which the dobby is attached is increasing from day to day.

The foregoing will show the directions in which improvements have been effected in the hand-loom industry. To one unfamiliar with it, these improvements which are of substantial assistance to the poor weaver will not be easily apparent. If one would only take the trouble to study the conditions obtaining, he would see for himself the immense help they have received on account of the labour of the department in its attempt to better their lot.

Sir, I may now pass on to entirely another line of activities, to which the department has been devoting its energies and which has resulted in some achievements of a far-reaching character. I

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refer to the investigation of the raw materials for the manufacture of cement. Some time back enquiries relating to the availability of lime shells and limestone were taken up by the department.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know, was that done by the department or by the Professor of Geology in Madras ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: The work was done by the Geological Section of the department. The Professor of Geology and the expert of the A. C. C. and another Geologist from America only checked up the work. They have found that the investigations conducted by our Geological Section in the matter of raw materials have been pursued along the right lines and the results derived from the work of the department have been reliable and accurate. The most important raw material needed is limestone or limeshells. That is available in very large quantities. Nearly 60 per cent of the raw material for cement is lime. The next important raw material is clay which again is available in large quantities. It has been proved that these two materials are found in abundance in Travancore. The estimates reckon on over four million tons of limestone and lime shells. The quantity will be sufficient to supply the material necessary for producing 30,000 tons per annum, for a period of over 75 years, when that factory is established.

President: The time for the Demand is over.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 89,132 under Demand XXI - Industries including Rubber Factory was put and carried.

The Demand was passed and the grant made.

DEMAND XXIV—MEDICAL.

Vaidyasastrakusala Dr. (Mrs.) M. Poonen Lukose: Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 10,59, 187 under Demand XXIV—Medical.

Mr. T. K. Kittan: സർ, ഒ ഠ ശ്രപാക്കുമേൽ വരുമാനമുള്ള ഫർ ആശുപത്രികളിൽനിന്നും മരുന്നു വാങ്ങിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അതിനു വിലകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഇപ്പോൾ ചട്ടം വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതുകൊണ്ടു മരുന്നുവാങ്ങിക്കുന്നവർക്കു വലിയ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുണ്ട്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു വലിയ ലാഭമൊന്നുമില്ല. ഒരാൾ അത്യാവശ്യമായി മരുന്നിനു ചെല്ലുമ്പോൾ ഡാക്ടർ അനുവാദം തീരുമാനിക്കേണ്ടതു് അയാൾക്കു ഒ ഠ ശ്രപക്കുമേൽ വരുമാനമുണ്ടോ എന്നാണു്. ഇതു തീരുമാനിച്ചുകിട്ടുന്നതിനു വളരെ സമയം വൃഥാകളയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതൊരു വലിയ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടാണു്. ഇതിൽനിന്നും കിട്ടുന്ന ആദായം വളരെ തുച്ഛവുമാണു

President: It is not intended for any income at all.

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